

**CITY OF ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING**

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2017

Members Present: Council Members Appllys, Commisso, Conti, Doesschate, Fahey, Flynn, Golby, Herring, Igoe, Kimbrough, Kornegay, Krasher, O'Brien, Council President McLaughlin

Staff Present: Gerald Campbell, Marisa Franchini

The roll being called, the meeting was called to order by President McLaughlin at 7:10pm; Council Member Flynn led the body in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence.

Public Comment Period

The following members of the public spoke:

- 1) Tyhisha Ghaffar-Adjei – 269 Elm Street Albany, NY 12202 - PEGA OB
- 2) Dennis Karius – 13 York Road Albany, NY 12203 – PEGA OB TV
- 3) Ryan Adams – (address illegible) - PEG
- 4) Alana Klein – 29 Glenwood Street, Albany, NY 12208 - Charlottesville
- 5) Vincent Riguso – 13 Beach Ave, Albany, NY 12203 Channel Albany, Traffic/Pedestrian related issues
- 6) Kimberly Krepp – 107 N. Manning Blvd Albany, NY 12206 PEGA OB

There being no further speakers, President McLaughlin declared the Public Comment Period closed.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

President Pro Tem Conti made a motion, which was duly seconded, to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2017 meeting of the Common Council; the motion was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Consideration of Local Laws

President Pro Tem Conti held the Local Laws on the agenda for further consideration.

Reports of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

Planning, Economic Development and Land Use: Council Member Herring reported that the Committee would meet on August 30 to consider the Mayor's appointments of Serena Joyce White and Richard Berkley to the Board of Zoning Appeals; and on September 27 for their annual oversight meeting on the Albany IDA/CRC.

Public Safety: Council Member Golby reported that the Committee would meet on August 28 to consider Ordinance 37.82.17 in relation to identification of law enforcement officers when interacting with members of the public.

Consideration of Ordinances

Council Member Applyrs noticed the introduction of Ordinance 37.82.17.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART 1 (DEPARTMENT OF POLICE) OF CHAPTER 42 (DEPARTMENT AND COMMISSIONS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE VIII (IDENTIFICATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS)

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Albany as follows:

Section 1. Part 1 of Chapter 42 of the Code of the City of Albany is hereby amended by adding a new Article VIII to read as follows:

Article VIII. Identification of law enforcement officers

Section 42-54-1. In order to foster trust between the community and the police department and to increase transparency in police practices, the Albany Police Department shall maintain a policy requiring officers to provide the public with a written record of their interactions with the police in situations that do not result in an arrest or summons. Such written record shall include the name, rank and command of the officer, and the contact information for the Citizens' Police Review Board.

Section 2. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance, or any amendments thereto, shall be held invalid or ineffective in whole or in part or inapplicable to any person or situation, such holding shall not affect, impair or invalidate any portion of or the remainder of this local law, and all other provisions thereof shall nevertheless be separately and fully effective and the application of any such provision to other persons or situations shall not be affected.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect ninety days after enactment.

President Pro Tem Conti referred Ordinance 37.82.17 to the Committee on Public Safety for further consideration.

Council Member Fahey noticed Ordinance 35.81.17 (**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE GRANT OF AN AIR EASEMENT IN FAVOR OF ALBANY MEDICAL CENTER IN THE CITY OF ALBANY (TAX MAP ID#: 76.05-1-15), OVER A PORTION OF THE CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF 22 NEW SCOTLAND AVENUE IN THE CITY OF ALBANY**), which had been previously introduced, requested passage and a vote thereon.

Council President McLaughlin called for a VOICE VOTE thereon and the ordinance was adopted (Council Members Commisso and Krasher in the negative).

Council Member O'Brien noticed Ordinance 36.81.17 (**AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE GRANT OF A PERMANENT EASEMENT TO VALUSPACE ALBANY LLC FOR THE USE AND OCCUPANCY OVER, UPON AND UNDER A PORTION OF THE CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF 40 RUSSELL ROAD**), which had been previously introduced, requested passage and a vote thereon.

Council President McLaughlin called for a VOICE VOTE thereon and the ordinance was adopted (Council Member Krasher in the negative).

President Pro Tem Conti held the remaining ordinances on the agenda for further consideration.

Consideration of Resolutions

President Pro Tem Conti made a motion to request Majority Consent to add Resolution 50.82.17R to the agenda for introduction. The motion was duly seconded and adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Council Member Applrys offered Resoultion 50.82.17R, requested passage and a vote thereon.

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACK IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA ON AUGUST 12, 2017 FUELED BY HATE, RACISM, BIGOTRY AND ANTISEMITISM.

WHEREAS, the City of Charlottesville, Virginia has become ground zero for racial tension and divide over the removal of a statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee from a downtown park; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the request to remove the statue, spearheaded by Dr. Wes Bellamy, Vice-Mayor of Charlottesville, White nationalists rallied in the city promoting hate, racism, antisemitism and bigotry; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2017, Heather D. Heyer lost her life and nineteen others were injured, standing in solidarity against hate, at the hands of a white racist; and

WHEREAS, State Trooper Berke Bates and Lieutenant Jay Cullen lost their lives in a helicopter crash returning to their base after monitoring the events in Charlottesville. The two were assisting police on-the-ground by conducting surveillance in the air; and

WHEREAS, cities across the country, including Baltimore, Maryland have started to remove confederate commemorative statues in acknowledgment of their representation of America's dark past which includes, slavery and the historic mistreatment of Americans of African descent;

WHEREAS, racism, which is the belief that a particular race is superior or inferior to another, is abhorrent in all its forms, and bigotry is the equally reprehensible hatred and intolerance of others based on their ideas, race, ethnicity or religion; and

WHEREAS, both acts of racism and bigotry contradict the cherished and universally held belief that all people should be treated equally; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Albany, New York stands in solidarity with the citizens in Charlottesville and those across the nation, denouncing white supremacy, hate and racism towards members of the African American and Jewish community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Albany Common Council grieves with the community of Charlottesville, and the victims and their families, as they cope with the terror of the acts committed by white supremacists and the loss of innocent life; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Albany Common Council is committed to taking action to ensure the City of Albany is a place where all people are valued equally and hate, racism, antisemitism, islamophobia and bigotry will not be tolerated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be suitably engrossed and transmitted to the City of Charlottesville, Virginia.

Council Members Applyrs and Fahey spoke on the resolution prior to a vote.

Council President McLaughlin called for a VOICE VOTE thereon and the resolution was adopted.

President Pro Tem Conti held the remaining resolutions on the agenda for further consideration.

Miscellaneous or Unfinished Business

Council President McLaughlin updated members on proposals for an honorary street renaming of North Swan Street between Clinton Avenue and Lark Street.

Council Member Golby reminded members of previous Council adoption of a Complete Streets ordinance which requires that street repaving or redesign projects take into consideration pedestrian improvements.

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Pro Tem Conti made a motion to adjourn which was duly seconded and adopted by unanimous voice vote; the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Gerald Campbell
Clerk to the Common Council